

**Village of Lovington
Regular Board Meeting
October 7, 2013**

Call to order: President Jim Minor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: President Minor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call found the following trustees to be present: Doug Smith, Roger Walker, Dennis Garmon, and Barry Morgan. President Jim Minor and Clerk Alma Fair were also present. Absent: Pam Anklam because of illness.

Guests present were Linda Patrick, Meta Creek, Amy Urbeck, Diane Bolen, Tony Tedrick and Florence Hallford.

Those noted as requesting to speak were Linda Patrick, Barry Morgan, Meta Creek, Amy Urbeck and Diane Bolen.

1. **Linda Patrick** – Ameren dumped wood chips for her neighbor where the water way is and it has worked its way into the ditch she didn't know if she should contact the drainage district or us to have them moved before they work their way to her shed. Roger Walker knows where it is and will have Sue Gordon call Linda's neighbor to tell him that the chips will be put back on his property.
2. **Barry Morgan** – Sparrows Unlimited and the American Legion will be doing a food drive this Saturday and wants permission to park in the intersection of State & Broadway downtown.
A **Motion** was made by Garmon and seconded by Smith to allow Sparrows Unlimited and the American Legion to park in the intersection of State & Broadway downtown for their food drive this Saturday.
YEA: Smith, Walker, Garmon. **MOTION CARRIED. Abstain:** Morgan **Absent:** Anklam
3. **Meta Creek** – Halloween is coming up, just a reminder that the golf carts shouldn't be on the sidewalk. If she sees them on the sidewalk she will call the police. She also wanted to know what is the speed limit on Al Best drive – Mayor Minor answered 30 miles an hour on all streets in town where there is not a sign posting something else. She also wanted to know what the speed limit coming into town was. Mayor Minor again answered that once in the village limits the limit is 30 miles an hour. If she has complaints call the police department but, be prepared to sign the complaint. Ms. Creek also wanted to know what are allowed on the streets beside golf carts and cars – the Mayor asked her what she was asking about – Ms. Creek responded - it looks like a dune buggy. Mayor – stated that he knows what she is talking about and it has been checked out and is legal to be on the street. Ms. Creek said the driver of this vehicle needs to stop peeling out and throwing rocks. Minor again stated that if she has a complaint write down the date and time and what is happening and call the police department.
4. **Amy Urbeck** – wants to know if when the wall came down on the former Village Hall that she was leasing from the Village, was there a water leak. They lost a lot of merchandise and had to burn it because of mold. If there was water then they can file a claim with their insurance. Roger Walker reminded her that if the air conditioner had been left on there wouldn't have been the mold. Ms. Urbeck stated she was never told that. Mr. Walker stated there was no place in the building that had a water leak. Ms. Urbeck stated she called Mr. Walker and Barry Morgan in July regarding the mold. Mr. Walker asked her what the contract that she signed say about damaged merchandise regarding the building because that would be what would be held up in court. Ms. Urbeck then stated that they only had liability insurance. She didn't want to make and trouble but only want what is fair. She has her contract at home, and will need to look at the lease to see what it says. Barry Morgan stated that if it says we are liable then we will take care of it. But we need to look at the contract. Ms. Urbeck will contact Mr. Morgan when she looks at her lease and the Village will look for theirs.

Closed Session

Meeting of "The Mayor & Commissioners of a municipality organized under article 4 of the Municipal Code held to discuss matters, which relate solely to exercise their executive or administrative responsibilities."

1. Discussion of candidates to fill Trustee position vacated August 2013
2. Discussion on changing police officer's status
3. Discussion regarding light duty for full time employees

A **Motion** was made by Morgan and seconded by Garmon to go into closed session at 7:19 pm.

YEA: Morgan, Smith, Walker, Garmon.

Absent: Anklam

MOTION CARRIED.

Return to Open Session

A **Motion** was made by Morgan and seconded by Smith to return from closed session at 7:47 pm.

YEA: Morgan, Smith, Walker, Garmon.

Absent: Anklam

MOTION CARRIED.

1. Action on Closed Session items - no action was taken.
2. Appointment of and execution of oath for new Trustee – Mayor Minor stated that the board needed to check on some legal issues before anyone can be appointed.

New Business

Mrs. Doggett of the Park Recreation board wasn't able to attend but had texted Mayor Minor stating that the Halloween dates are going to be Sunday, October 27th for the costume contest. She was also asking for \$300.00 for the night of the costume contest. It was unclear when trick-or-treat was to be but the hours will be 4-6 pm for the businesses and 5-8 pm for residents.

A **Motion** was made by Morgan and seconded by Smith to give Garmon directive to set the trick-or-treat night.

YEA: Garmon, Morgan, Smith, Walker

Absent: Anklam

MOTION CARRIED.

NOTE: Before the end of the meeting Garmon received a text back from Mrs. Doggett saying the October 31st would be the night for trick-or-treating.

Old Business

1. Discussion and action on pasture rent - we pay \$114.10 in Real Estate taxes and if we want to raise the rent now would be the time. The rent is \$175.00. Everyone was okay with the rent as is since we can dump the sewer sludge on it the property as well. No change in rent.

Minutes and action of Village Clerk

1. Discussion and action on invoices

A **Motion** was made by Morgan and seconded by Garmon to accept the listed invoices.

YEA: Walker, Garmon, Morgan, Smith

Absent: Anklam

MOTION CARRIED.

Clerk Fair stated that the skate park has been paid leaving a balance of \$126.33 not including interest in the skate park savings account. The only thing needed to be paid is the Rules and Regulations sign. Dennis Garmon stated that the cost of the sign was \$140.11. Fair will check with the bank for the correct balance in the Skate Park Savings account and will let Garmon know for sure the amount remaining in the account so that he can let Chris Bennett know if they owe any more for the sign or if there is money left over.

2. Discussion and action on September 9, 2013 Regular Board meeting minutes.

A **Motion** was made by Morgan and seconded by Walker to approve the September 9, 2013 Regular Board meeting minutes as corrected.

YEA: Garmon, Morgan, Smith, Walker

Absent: Anklam

MOTION CARRIED.

Clerk Fair noted that she had inventoried the Village's Safety Deposit box at Hardware State Bank and the list was included in their board packets. She also asked if anyone knew where the other CD's were located as there were only 3 in the box. The board directed her to ask the bank if they know where they are located.

Treasurer's Report

1. Discussion and action on September 2013 Treasurer's reports.

A **Motion** was made by Morgan and seconded by Walker to accept the September 2013 treasurer's report as presented.

YEA: Morgan, Smith, Walker, Garmon

Absent: Anklam

MOTION CARRIED.

Department Reports

Presidents Report – by Jim Minor

Nothing to report

Water and Sewer Report – by Dennis Garmon

1. Water billing report –For October there were 509 customers, 31 days in the billing cycle, 1,869,300 gallons of water used, \$24,043.03 was billed.
2. There was a report of the Storm Sewer funds that have been collected so far.
3. Well #10 still doesn't pass and we might need to purchase new fitting.
4. They will be flushing hydrates soon.
5. The pump at the sewer plant needs to be pulled. Sludge has been put on the pasture.
6. Doug Smith also reported on the storm sewer - on the South end of Broadway there is a backup they are going to jet it and if that doesn't work he will come back to the board regarding it. It is probably tree roots; he has talked to Chris Gillis about it. Mayor Minor stated that with the leaves coming down they might need to make sure the drains are clean. Mr. Smith - they plan to use the street sweeper with the leaves coming down and they also might need to pull man holes and clear out the leaves.

Parks and Special Projects – by Dennis Garmon

1. Before we sent the final payment of the skate park, we were waiting for some needed repairs to be made. He and Roger Walker went over to inspect the skate park and a man from the Ramp company showed up and made the repairs.
2. Update on the horseshoe pit – Garmon is waiting until spring to work on it.
3. Update on computers for the Village Hall – QNS was here for two days installing the computers, networking and linking this building with the water plant. Mr. Garmon stated he has called to cancel the Internet at the water plant.
4. The lease for 108 E. State has been done and Ralph Zancha has been there working to move in.
5. Chris Gillis has called and ordered 2 port-a-potties for Homecoming.
6. He attended the aggregation meeting on 9/25/13. They selected 0.04660 per kilowatt hour.
7. Aggregation funds received were \$345.06
8. Gaming tax funds received were \$1,462.01

Police – by Jim Minor in Pam Anklam's absence

1. Police report - Reports taken – 21, Calls dispatched – 19, Calls officer initiated – 4, Warning Citations issued – 3, State Citations Issued – 1, Juvenile Cases – 5, Misdemeanor Cases – 7, Felony Cases – 5, Agency Assists – 5, Total hours - 280
2. Animal Control report - 1 call, 1 resident.

Streets and Alleys – by Doug Smith

1. The dump truck has issues and is being worked on. October 13th they will be painting the streets for homecoming.
2. Sweeping of State and Broadway streets will be done more often now because of the leaves. Notes will be posted on cars a couple of days ahead to have the cars moved from these streets.
3. A sidewalk was replaced on West Church Street.
4. A culvert was replaced on North Broadway; the road is rough and will be patched as soon as it settles.
5. The John Deere tractor has new tires.
6. Replaced two windows in the backhoe that were broken.

Mayor Minor made some comments regarding large grain trucks going through town. He called the elevator and Gary has it posted at elevator to use Al Best drive and not State Street. Some of the trucks are 6 or 10 wheel trucks. Signs need to be made that they can't come down State Street and be placed as they come into town. Barry Morgan thinks there is an ordinance that says they can't go on our main streets. Doug Smith will talk to Jeff Burch an engineer in Sullivan regarding the posting of signs.

Trustee Smith has talked to Chris Gillis about State Street because it is going to need some repairs before long.

Buildings and Grounds – by Roger Walker

1. Shelving is up in the room for old records.
2. A dead tree on South Broadway has been removed.
3. The back of the community building has a big crack in it and the wall is leaning out. Ameren was called and they came right out; so the electric and gas meters are now gone from both buildings. Sue Gordon contacted Ameren and they will be out tomorrow to bring gas back up to the old Village Hall. It will cost \$750 for them to do this. For us to get it into the building and to the furnace we are talking about \$1000.00. We will not rent the back of the building until it is fixed. He has talked to Doug Marick and he can take down the back of the building and put it back up. This is a major project. To fix it the cost will be from \$15,000 to \$20000. This would also expose the side of John Renfro's restaurant building and we need to fix it. Roger Ray can repair the building but it is going to cost. Mayor Minor stated that we all need to take a look at it and decide what we want to do with it. Doug Smith asked if this will hold Ralph Zancha up to moving in. Walker said it shouldn't. Walker stated that with Ralph renting the building in 5 years we will get our money back. Garmon would like to see it repaired like it is.
4. A couple of houses need to be taken care of in town. He will have to hire an engineer at a cost of \$250-\$400. Neighbors have complained about a house on the corner of Washington and Church on the NE corner. Mr. Garmon stated that a house on E. S. Railroad was also in bad shape.

A **Motion** was made by Garmon and seconded by Smith to have an engineer look at the house on the corner of Washington and Church on the NE corner and to also look at the house on the east end of E. S. Railroad.

YEA: Smith, Walker, Garmon, Morgan

Absent: Anklam

MOTION CARRIED.

5. The John Renfro property needs to be pursued in court. The Mayor needs to call our lawyer to pursue it. We are obligated to do it.
6. Skate Park report –It is finished and paid for.
7. Discussion and action on disbanding the Skate Park Committee

A **Motion** was made by Walker and seconded by Garmon to disband the Skate Park Committee.

YEA: Walker, Garmon, Morgan, Smith

Absent: Anklam

MOTION CARRIED.

Insurance – by Barry Morgan

Nothing to report

Adjournment

A **Motion** was made by Morgan and seconded by Garmon to adjourn at 8:57 p.m.

YEA: Garmon, Morgan, Smith, Walker

Absent: Anklam

MOTION CARRIED.



Alma M. Fair, Village Clerk

November 4, 2013

Date Approved